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DARK HORSE COMICS
REBEL SWORD 5
$2.50 US
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YOSHIKAZU YASUHIKO
Rebel Sword
STUDIO PROTEUS

Rebel Sword™

F · I · V · E

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ACT.5

WHKOOOOOM

KRTTTT
TT

WHRAMM
AIEEYAA!

DAMN IT!
YOU STAY HERE !!
FIND SOMEPLACE TO TAKE COVER !
EEEK!
THEY'RE COMING RIGHT AT US!!
VRTTTT

BUDDA
VRTTTTTTTTT
THOSE BLOOD-THIRSTY BASTARDS!!
THEY'RE JUST FIRING AT ANYTHING THAT MOVES!
....
JUST STAY PUT, LIRA!
WAIT FOR ME THERE!
JIRO!
WAIT!!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

THAT'S NOT FAIR!
WHADDAYA MEAN, STAY--
WHAM
EEK!
HELLLP!
urk!
OUT! EVERY-BODY OUT!!
SHOOT DOWN THOSE BASTARDS!!

HEY, KID! STOP! ARE YOU CRAZY?!
YOU'LL BE BURIED ALIVE!!
WHUD
BKOOM

WHRMMBB
HANG ON! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
DON'T WORRY, BROTHER— I'LL SAVE YOU!!
BUDDA
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

BUDDA BUDDA
BKOOM

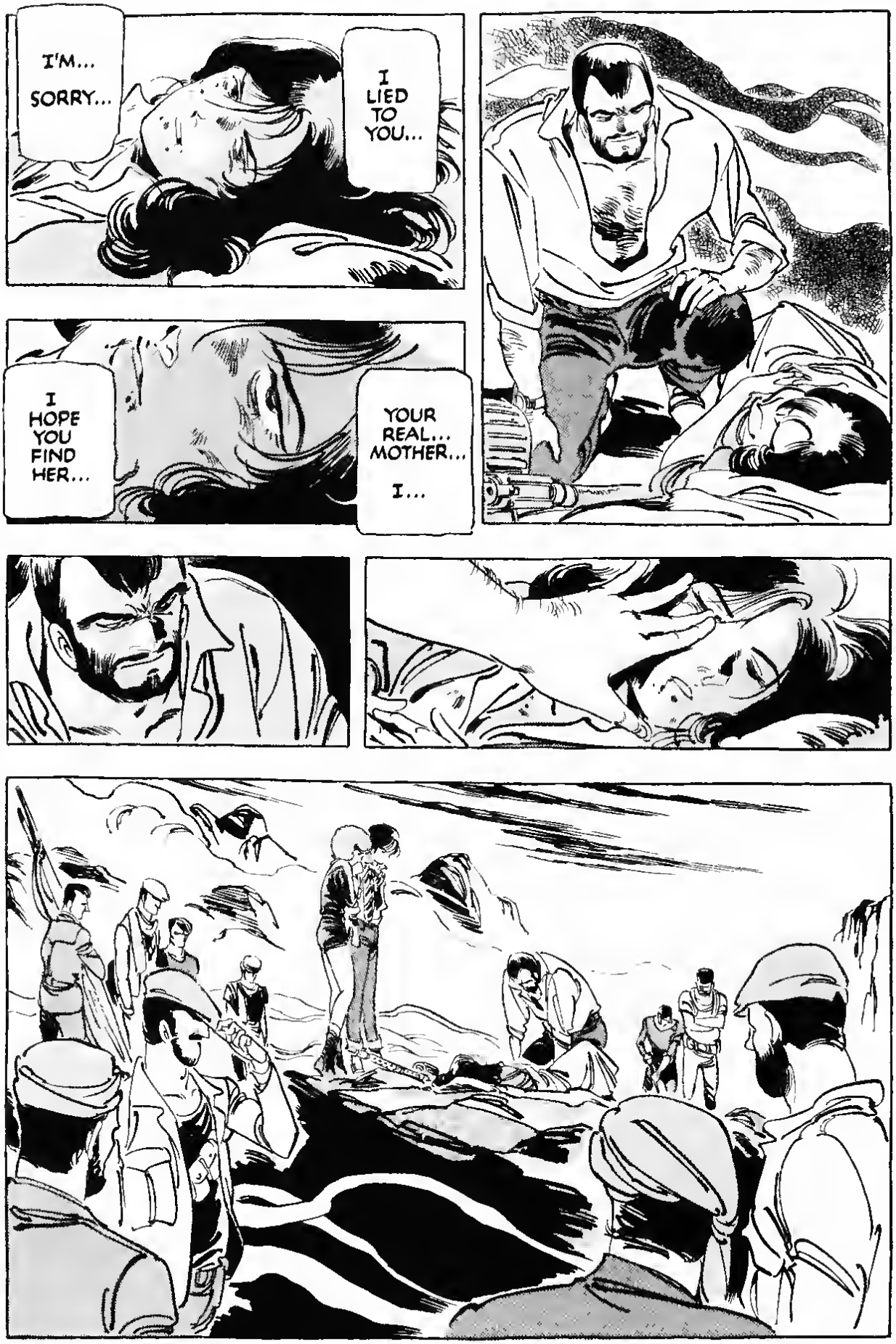
WHERE ARE YOU?!
ARE YOU OKAY?!
JI--
JIRO!!
HEY!
WHAT'S THE--
!!
AĞA!!
WHRMMMBBB
IT'S SAFE HERE.
JUST CALM DOWN, BOY.
PERHAPS WE'LL LOSE THE FIRST COUPLE OF LEVELS, BUT...

KRAK
KRAK
WHKOOOOOOM...
THOSE FOOLS UP THERE, RUNNING AROUND LIKE IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD-- THEY'RE JUST PROVIDING TARGET PRACTICE FOR THE GUNSHIP.
OKAY, AĞA, I UNDER-STAND...
BUT...
...I'M STILL GOING TO LOOK FOR THE KID.
I WANT TO KEEP HIM COMPANY.
I CAN'T STAND THINKING OF HIM ALL ALONE AND SCARED.
BKOOOOOM
:snff:
:snff:
AFTER ALL...
HE'S MY LITTLE BROTHER.

aahh
huh
huh...
snff
snff

WHKOOOMBBBB

DON'T!
D-
DON'T TOUCH HER!
KEEP YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF OF HER--
--OR I'LL CUT YOUR STINKIN' HEARTS OUT!
SORRY...
I HAD TO YELL A BIT AT THOSE FOOLS...
THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING...
J- JIRO...
....

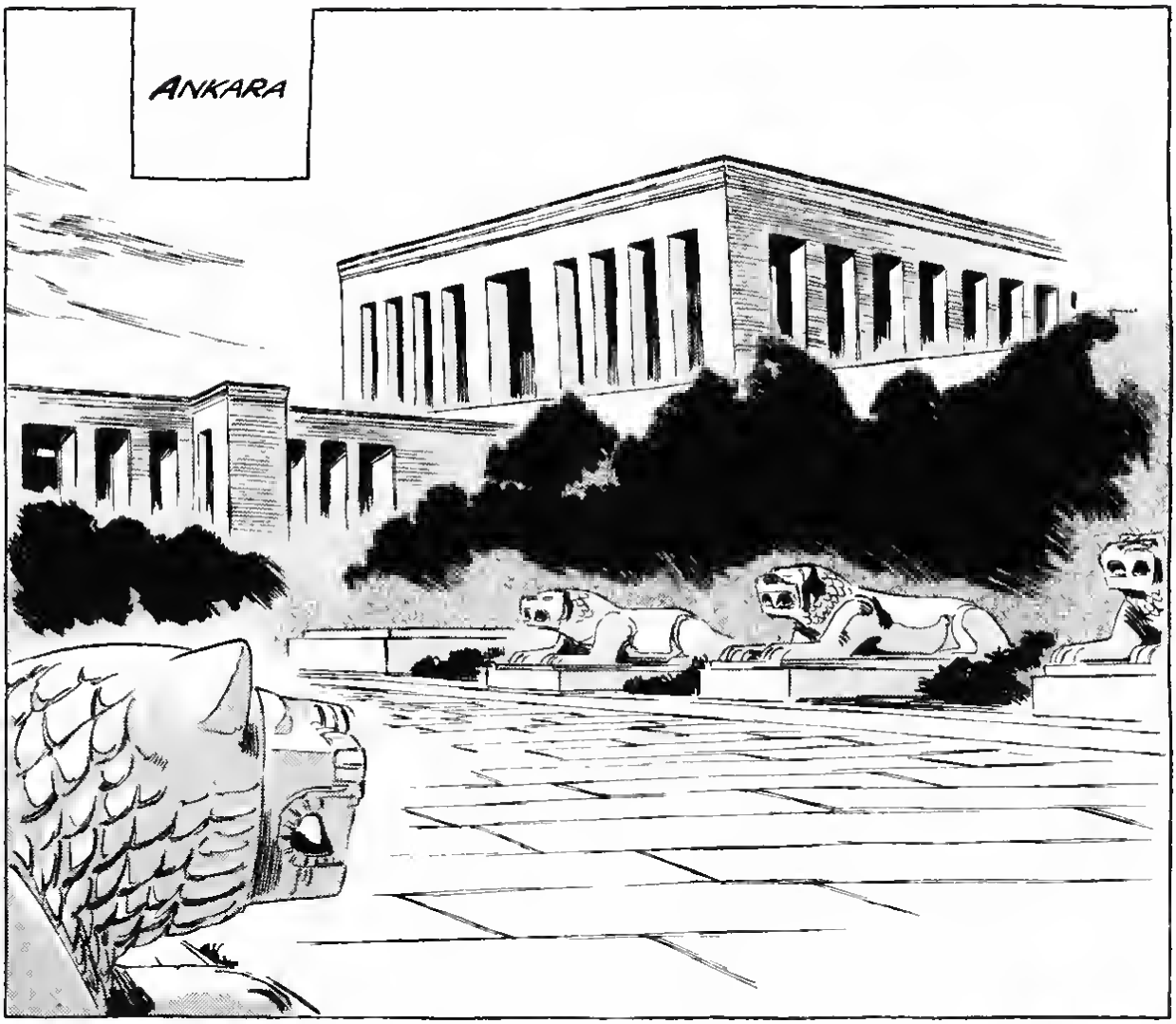

I'M... SORRY...
I LIED TO YOU...
I HOPE YOU FIND HER...
YOUR REAL... MOTHER...
I...

DEMIREL...
I HEARD SHE WAS YOUR WIFE.
SHE WAS... A GOOD WOMAN...
SHE WAS FORCED TO PLAY THE PART...
...BECAUSE SHE HAPPENED TO LOOK A LOT LIKE YOUR MOTHER, SARI. BUT SHE HATED TO DO IT...
JIRO.
YOU CAN GO HOME NOW, IF YOU WANT.
I'LL BE GLAD TO SPEAK WITH THE AĞA FOR YOU.
BACK TO JAPAN.
I TAKE IT THAT MEANS...
...YOU'LL STAY.
SO-- YOU'RE WILLING TO STICK WITH US, Eh?
IN THAT CASE...
BUT THIS WILL PROB-ABLY BE...
...YOUR LAST CHANCE TO GO.
YOU'RE NOW A KURDISH WARRIOR...
...A REBEL SWORD, JIRO!!

BKOOM

WHRAM
LAND MINE!!
ALL UNITS DEPLOY TO COMBAT--
DISPERSE !!
WHRAM
BKAMM
BRTTTTT

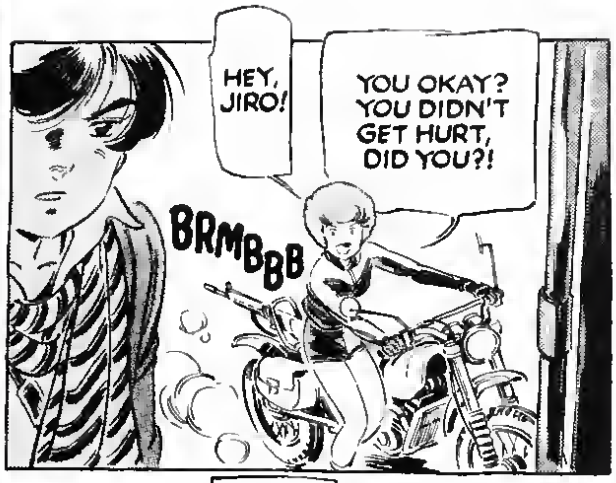
BUDDA BUDDA
SPRANGG
BRTTTTT
SPAK
SPAK
SPAK
BUDDABUDDABUDDA
VIP VIP VIP VIP


ANKARA

THE TURKISH GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

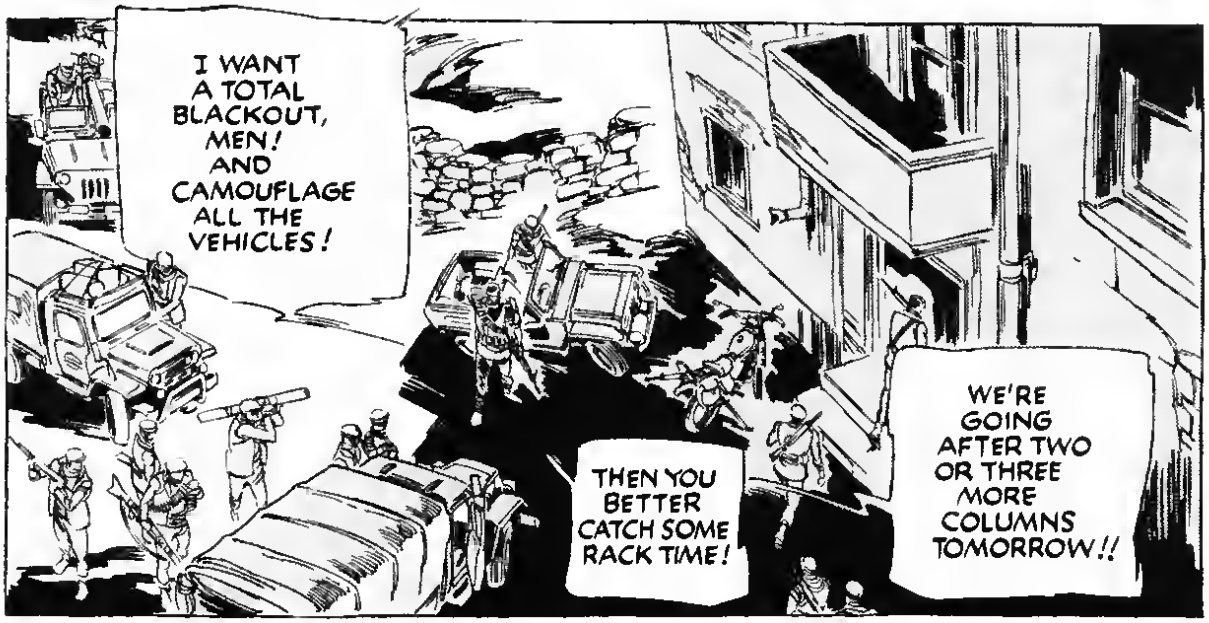
GENTLEMEN, THERE ARE TWO CRITICAL FACTORS AT WORK. ONE IS THE CONTINUING INFLUX ACROSS OUR BORDER OF IRAQI KURDS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR.
THE OTHER IS THE INCREASE IN WARLIKE POSTURING AND TERRORIST ACTIVITIES BY ARMED ELEMENTS AMONG OUR INDIGENOUS KURDS IN THE SOUTHEAST.
THEIR NUMBERS AND FIREPOWER ARE NEGLIGIBLE. BUT THEY REMAIN A CANCER WITHIN OUR REPUBLIC WHICH WE CANNOT AFFORD TO IGNORE!
THIS DREAM OF AN INDEPENDENT KURDISTAN WHICH THEY PURSUE...
...IS A HOAX PERPETRATED BY THE DISGRACEFUL TREATY OF SÈVRES IN 1920!
MY FRIENDS, IT IS TIME TO PROVE THAT THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY MEANS BUSINESS!!
WE MUST SNUFF OUT THE KURDISH GUERRILLAS-- TO THE LAST MAN!!
IN THE NAME OF OUR GREAT FOREFATHER KEMAL ATATÜRK...
...WE MUST PUT A STOP TO THIS TRAVESTY!!

Whewww...


HEY, JIRO!
YOU OKAY? YOU DIDN'T GET HURT, DID YOU?!
BRMBBB

GOOD WORK, SOLDIER!
YOU MUST BE TIRED...
HONDA

YEAH...
I'M TIRED, ALL RIGHT...


I WANT A TOTAL BLACKOUT, MEN! AND CAMOUFLAGE ALL THE VEHICLES!
THEN YOU BETTER CATCH SOME RACK TIME!
WE'RE GOING AFTER TWO OR THREE MORE COLUMNS TOMORROW!!

THEY'RE GONE?!
RUKEN AND HIS BOYS HAVE DISAPPEARED, EH?
SHIT!
OKAY, FINE! LET 'EM GO!!
IF THEY GIVE US ANY TROUBLE, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF 'EM.
BUT I'M BETTING THAT WON'T BE NECES-SARY.
WHAT'S THIS?! BOOZING IT UP ALREADY?!
YOU! YOU'RE THE SENTRY, AREN'T YOU?! GET YOUR ASS OUT ON POST!
HEY, THAT'S MY BED!!

AAHH!
JEEZ, THIS DAMN THING IS HEAVY!
CAN'T YOU TRADE IT IN FOR SOMETHING THAT LOOKS BETTER AND WEIGHS LESS?
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE-- THEY ALL KILL PEOPLE THE SAME WAY...
WELL, YEAH...
GUESS SO...
HEY, CHECK IT OUT! WHAT A NEAT BALCONY!
IT'S A LITTLE RICKETY, BUT...
GUESS WHOEVER BUILT THIS PLACE LIKED THE VIEW, Huh?
LOOK, LIRA.
YOU OUGHTA GO HOME... BACK TO ISTANBUL.
HUH?

I'M HALF-KURD, SO I GUESS IT MAKES SENSE FOR ME TO STAY.
YOU SHOULDN'T GET TANGLED UP IN ALL THIS.
BUT THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO, Eh?
WHY NOT?! I DON'T CARE!
?!
WHAT AM I S'POSED TA DO IN ISTANBUL? PLAY TAG WITH THE COPS? BORRRING!
SO...
SO YOU REALLY ENJOY KILLING PEOPLE?
IS THAT IT?
N-NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...!
THEN WHAT, LIRA?!
NOW HOLD ON A SEC, BUDDY!!
YOU SAYING I'M SOME KINDA DUMB BIMBO, IS THAT IT?!
WELL, WHAT THE HELL AM I SUP-POSED TO THINK?!
I MEAN, WHAT OTHER REASON DO YOU HAVE FOR HANGING AROUND?!
YOU THINK I'M HANGING OUT WITH YOU FOR A CHEAP THRILL OR SOMETHING?!
OOOH!
YOU... YOU JERK!
OK, DAL!!

IF YOU GET HURT, OR... OR EVEN DIE!!
SEE IF I GIVE A GODDAMN SHIT!!
SLAM!
SORRY, LIRA...
I JUST NEED TIME TO MYSELF...
JUST FOR A WHILE...
CAN'T YOU UNDER-STAND THAT?
SO MUCH STUFF HAS HAPPENED TO ME, AND SO FAST...
IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE SMELL OF GUNPOWDER ON MY HANDS, I WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT MYSELF...
ME-- IN A PLACE LIKE THIS-- KILLING ALL THOSE PEOPLE...
CHAK

YOU STILL THERE, LIRA?!
PLEASE, JUST LEAVE ME ALONE FOR A WHILE, OKAY?!
KCHIK
Y-YOU!!
RUKEN'S WOMAN--?!
WHA--
--WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!

?!
TO BE CONTINUED !!

FINISH LINE

People who work in comics get used to the astonished responses they receive when they reveal what they do for a living. "Comics?" people ask. This is especially true for me as Dark Horse's proofreader because people can't fathom that 1) I get paid for, literally, reading comic books all day, and 2) that comic books need proofreading at all. "What's the point? They're comic books!" or "Gee, tough job," are the usual responses.

The point, of course (for anyone who has anything to do with language and communication), is that to be effective, i.e., understandable, communication of any form needs to be very clear and concise. The originator's/author's meaning needs to be clearly understood. Obviously, muddled misusage of the English language greatly affects this goal.

But proofreading is about more than just commas, misspelled words, and so on. Proofreading comic books is about knowing as much as is possible about a variety of subjects. How many feet are in a yard? What was Beatrix Potter's real name? What does the Albanian flag look like? Who wrote *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*? How *do* you spell the sound effect *skreeeeeee*?

Proofreading is also about noticing confusing balloon placements, character name changes, Canadian price exchange rates, costume changes, misplaced or missing tattoos, floating eyeglasses, backward swastikas, three-legged dogs (except Concrete's), pianos missing black keys, and a plethora of other items. It basically means paying attention to details, details, details.

What's the point? Well, it all comes back to clear communication. When all or some of the above potential errors exist in a book, they take away from the writer's meaning — they cloud the intended vision or purpose. Unfortunately, to many people these things are not noticeable or important. (That says something for the "acceptable" decline of our language.) But, believe it or not, there are people who care about the quality of their comics.

As one of the few people who (hopefully) gets the opportunity to read all of Dark Horse's comics before they go to press, it is my job to care about the quality of Dark Horse's comics. It's my job to notice things.

Do I get paid for reading comics all day? Yes, but it isn't as easy or as fun as it seems; however, at least most of what I read is in some way entertaining. But it's not like I get to pick and choose what comics *I* read (we don't even publish any Felix the Cat comics). I have to read *all* of them carefully. It's not like I sit around with my feet on my desk leisurely reading the books. With a boss like Diana, who really knows the English language, I've got to keep on my toes and concentrate on what's in front of me.

Proofreading comics is a dirty job, but someone's gotta do it, and it might as well be me!

It's all about proofreading,
Suzanne Taylor

FEB. CHECKLIST

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 7

- ❑ NERMES VERSUS THE EYEBALL KID #3
- ❑ JAMES BOND 007: THE QUASIMODO GAMBIT #1
- ❑ REBEL SWORD #3
- ❑ X #11

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 14

- ❑ CLASSIC STAR WARS: THE EARLY ADVENTURER #7
- ❑ DARK HORSE INSIDER #39
- ❑ DARK HORSE PRESENTS #94
- ❑ INDIANA JONES AND THE IRON PHOENIX #3
- ❑ INSTANT PIANO #3
- ❑ JOHN BYRNE'S NEXT MEN, VOLUME 4: FAITH (TRADE PAPERBACK COLLECTION)
- ❑ STAR WARS: TALES OF THE JEDI — DARK LORDS OF THE SITH, BOOK 1 #9

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 21

- ❑ ALIENS: BERSERKER #2
- ❑ GIVE ME LIBERTY (LIMITED-EDITION HARDCOVER)
- ❑ GRENDEL TALES: HOMECOMING #3
- ❑ SIN CITY: THE BIG FAT KILL #4
- ❑ STAR WARS: DARK EMPIRE II #3
- ❑ TRIPLE-X #3

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 28

- ❑ ALIENS/PREDATOR: THE DEADLIEST OF THE SPECIES #10
- ❑ BARB WIRE #9
- ❑ EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS' TARZAN: THE LOST ADVENTURE #2
- ❑ THE JAM: URBAN ADVENTURE #1
- ❑ THE MACHINE #4
- ❑ THE MASK #1
- ❑ THE MASK (LIMITED-EDITION HARDCOVER SET)
- ❑ OH MY GODDESS! PART 2 #1
- ❑ TANK GIRL 2 (TRADE PAPERBACK COLLECTION)

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